

A black and white photograph of a woman sitting in a wicker chair in a room with a large arched window. To her left is another empty wicker chair. The room has a tiled floor and a dark rug.

MARK TWAIN IN HIS NEW HOME.

REDDING, Connecticut, April 21.— Samuel M. Clemens, known all over the world as Mark Twain, died here today. The author was taken ill yesterday and owing to his old age, the physicians in attendance found it impossible to revive him after his attack.

From all over the world messages of condolence have been received by the immediate relatives of the deceased. Mark Twain was regarded as the most popular living American author. He had met the crowned heads of Europe and was received several years ago with favor by King Edward. His principal works have been translated in all the European languages.

Mark Twain was born in Florida, Missouri, on November 30, 1835. About the latest and most complete biographical sketch of the famous author was written by Samuel E. Moffett, and contains the following: From his earliest childhood young Clemens had been of an adventurous disposition. Before he was thirteen, he had been extracted three times from the Mississippi, and six times from Bear Creek, and his substantial ydrowned condition, but his mother, with the high confidence in his future that never deserted her, merely remarked: "People who are born to be hanged are safe in the water." By 1853 the Humberald teacher had become too short for him. He disappeared from home and wandered from one Eastern printing-office to another. He saw the World's Fair at New York, and other marvels, and supported himself by selling type. At the end of this Wanderjahr financial stress drove him back to his family. He lived at St. Louis, Magazine, and Keokuk until 1857, when he induced the great Horace Bixby to teach him the mystery of stamboat piloting. The charm of all this warm, indolent existence in the sleepy river towns has colored his whole subsequent life. In "Tom Sawyer," "Huckleberry Finn," "Life on the Mississippi," and "Puddhead Wilson," every phase of that vanished era is lovingly dwelt upon.

Brought up in a slaveholding atmosphere, Mark Twain naturally sympathized at first with the South. To June he joined the Confederates in Reynolds county, Missouri, as a second lieutenant under General Tom Harris. His military career lasted for two weeks. Narrating the destruction of being captured by Colonel Fyler's Regiment, he resigned, explaining that he had become "unconquered." He fought "through persistent attention in the subsequent writings he has given, recorded his first experience as a soldier as a barbarous episode, through the official reports and correspondence of the Confederate numbers speak respectably of the work of the day, and show that he had no illusions. He learned from his brother, Orville, who was with the administration of the Federal army, and received a commission in the new Territory of Nevada. He was a soldier, a speculator, a newspaper man, the possessor of private property, himself, with nothing to do, and salary." The two crossed the plains in the overland march in eighteen days—almost precisely the time it will take to go from New York to Vladivostok.

When the Transsiberian Railway is finished.

A year of variegated fortune hunting among the silver mines of the Humboldt and Esmeralda regions followed. Occasional letters written during this time to the leading newspaper of the Territory, the Virginia City Territorial Enterprise, attracted the attention of the proprietor, Mr. J. T. Goodman, a man of keen and unerring literary instinct, and he offered the writer the position of local editor on his staff. With the duties of this place were combined those of legislative correspondent at Carson City, the capital. The work of young Clemens created a sensation among the lawmakers. He wrote a weekly letter, spiced with barbed personalities. It appeared every Sunday, and on Mondays the legislative business was obstructed with the complaints of members who rose to question of privilege, and expressed their opinion of the correspondent with asperity. This encouraged him to give his letters more individuality by signing them. For this purpose he adopted the old Mississippi landsman's call for two fatbuns—(two)ve feet)—“Mark Twain.”

At that particular period dueling was a passing fashion on the Comstock. The refinements of Parisian civilization had not penetrated there, and a Washoe seldom left more than one survivor. The weapons were always Colt's navy revolvers—distance, fifteen paces; fire and advance; six shots allowed. Mark Twain became involved in a quarrel with Mr. Laird, the editor of the Virginia Union, and the stunt on seemed to call for a duel. Neither combatant was an expert with the pistol, but Mark Twain was fortunate enough to have a second who was. The men were pre-

A black and white photograph of a small, rustic wooden building, possibly a shed or barn, with a thatched roof. A person is standing in the foreground near a wooden fence. The image is framed by a decorative border.

thing in adjacent gorges, Mr. Laird doing fairly well, and his opponent hitting everything but the mark. A small bird lit on a sage bush thirty yards away, and Mark Twain's second fired and knocked off its head. At that moment the enemy came over the ridge, saw the dead bird, observed the distance, and learned from Gillis, the humorist's second, that the feat had been performed by Mark Twain, for whom such an exploit was nothing remarkable. They withdrew for consultation, and then offered a formal apology, after which peace was restored, leaving Mark Twain with the honors of war.

Mark Twain found a berth as city editor of the San Francisco Morning Call, but he was not adapted to routine newspaper work, and in a couple of years he made another bid for fortune in the mines. He tried the "pocket mines" of California, this time, at Jackass Gulch, in Calaveras County, but was fortunate enough to find no pockets. Thus he escaped the hypnotic fascination that has kept so many utterly unsuccessful "pocket miners" willing prisoners in Sierra cabins for life, and in three months he was back in San Francisco, penniless, but in the line of literary promotion. He wrote yellers for the Virginia Enterprise for a time, but tiring of that, welcomed an assignment to visit Hawaii for the Sacramento Union, and wrote about the sugar interests. It was in Honolulu that he accomplished one of his greatest feats of "straight newspaper work." The clipper Hornet had been burned on "the line," and when the skeleton survivors arrived, after a passage of forty-three days in an open boat on ten days' provisions, Mark Twain gathered their stories, worked all day and all night, and threw a complete account of the horror aboard a schooner that had already cast off. It was the only full account that reached California, and it was not only a clean "scrap" of unusual magnitude, but an undiminished piece of literary art. The Union testified its appreciation by paying the correspondent ten times the current rates for it.

After six months in the Islands, Mark Twain returned to California, and made his first venture upon the lecture platform. He was warmly

A black and white photograph of a small, single-story house with a gabled roof, surrounded by trees and a wooden fence. The house has a central window with a dark frame and a small porch area. The fence is made of vertical wooden posts and horizontal rails. The image is framed by a decorative border.

ceived, and delivered several lectures with profit. In 1867 he went East by way of the Isthmus, and joined the Quaker City excursion to Europe and the Holy Land, as correspondent of the Alta California, of San Francisco. During this tour of five or six months the party visited the principal ports of the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. From this trip grew "The Innocents Abroad," the creator of Mark Twain's reputation as a literary force of the first order. "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County" had preceded it, but "The Innocents" gave the author his first introduction to international literature. A hundred thousand copies were sold the first year, and as many more later.

Four years of lecturing followed—distasteful, but profitable. Mark Twain always shrank from the public exhibition of himself on the platform, but he was a popular favorite there from the first. He was one of a little group, including Henry Ward Beecher and two or three others, for whom every lyceum committee in the country was bidding, and whose capture at any price insured the success of a lecture course.

The Quaker City excursion had a more important result than the production of "The Innocents Abroad." Through her brother, who was one of the party, Mr. Clemens became acquainted with Miss Olivia L. Langdon, the daughter of Jervis Langdon, of Elmira, New York, and this acquaintance led, in February, 1870, to one of the most ideal marriages in literary history.

Four children came of this union. The eldest, Langdon, a son, was born in November, 1870, and died in 1872. The second, Susan Olivia, a daughter, was born in the latter year, and lived only twenty-four years, but long enough to develop extraordinary mental gifts and every grace of character. Two other daughters, Clara Langdon and Jean, were born in 1874 and 1880, respectively, and still live (1899).

Mark Twain's first home as a man or family was in Buffalo, in a house given to the bride by her father as a wedding present.

"Roughing It," which was written in 1872, and scored a success hardly second to that of "The Innocents," was, like that, simply a humorous nar-

native of personal experiences, variegated by brilliant splashes of description; but with "The Gilded Age," which was produced in the same year, in collaboration with Mr. Charles Dudley Warner, the humorist began to evolve into the philosopher. "Tom Sawyer," appearing in 1876, was a veritable manual of boy nature, and its sequel, "Huckleberry Finn," which was published nine years later, was not only an advanced treatise in the same science, but a most moving study of the workings of the untutored human soul in boy and man. "The Prince and the Pauper," 1882, "A Connecticut Yankee at King Arthur's Court" (1889), and "Pudd'nhead Wilson" (first published serially in 1893-94) were all alive with a comprehensive and passionate sympathy to which their humor was quite subordinate, although Mark Twain never wrote, and probably never will write, a book that could be read without laughter. His humor is as irrepressible as Lincoln's, and like that, it bubbles out on the most solemn occasions; but still, again like Lincoln's, it has a way of seeming, in spite of the surface incongruity, to belong there. But it was in the "Personal Recollections of Joan of Arc," whose anonymous serial publication in 1894-95 betrayed some critics of reputation into the absurdity of attributing it to other authors, notwithstanding the characteristic evidences of its paternity that obliterated themselves on every page, that Mark Twain became most distinctly a prophet of humanity. Here, at last, was a book with nothing ephemeral about it—one that will reach the elemental human heart as well among the flying machines of the next century, as it does among the automobiles of today, or as it would have done among the stage coaches of a hundred years ago.

And side by side with this spiritual growth had come a growth in knowledge and in culture. The Mark Twain of "The Innocents," keen-eyed, quick of understanding, and full of fresher interest in all Europe had to show, but frankly avowing that he "did not know what in the mischief the Renaissance was," had developed into an accomplished scholar and a man of the world for whom the globe had few surprises left. The Mark Twain of 1895 might conceivably have written "The Innocents Abroad," although it would have required an effort to put himself in the necessary frame of mind; but the Mark Twain of 1869 could not more have written "Joan of Arc" than he could have deciphered the Mayan hieroglyphics.

All this time fortune had been steadily favorable, and Mark Twain had been spoken of by the press, sometime with admiration, as an example of the financial success possible in literature, and sometimes with uncharitable envy as a haughty millionaire, forgetful of his humble friends. But now began the series of unfortunate investments that swept away the accumulations of half a lifetime of hard work, and left him loaded with debts incurred by other men. In 1885 he financed the publishing house of Charles L. Webster & Company in New York. The bargain business, with the prestige of a brilliant coup. It secured the publication of the *Memoirs of General Grant*, which achieved a sale of more than 600,000 volumes. The first check received by the Grant heirs was \$229,000, and this was followed a fortnight later by one for \$15,000. These were the largest checks ever paid for an author's work on either side of the Atlantic. Meanwhile, Mr. Clemens was spending great sums on a typesetting machine of such seductive ingenuity as to captivate the imagination of everybody who saw it. It worked

and expensive for commercial use, after sinking a fortune in it between 1886 and 1889, Mark Twain had to write off the whole investment as a dead loss.

On top of this the publishing one which had been supposed to be a profitable business, turned out to have been ineapably conducted, and all the money that came into his hands was lost. Mark Twain contributed \$100,000 in efforts to save its life, but to no purpose, and when it finally failed, he found that it had not only squandered everything he had put in, but had incurred liabilities of \$96,000, of which less than one-third was covered by assets.

He could easily have avoided legal liability for the debts, but as the credit of the company had been largely upon his name, he felt bound in honor to pay them. In 1895-96 he took his wife and second daughter on a lecturing tour around the world, wrote "Following the Equator," and cleared off the obligations of the business in full.

The years 1897, 1898 and 1899 were spent in England, Switzerland, and Austria. Vienna took the family to heart, and Mark Twain achieved so much popularity among all classes there that he is rarely won by a foreigner anywhere. He saw the manufacture of a good deal of history in that time. It was his fortune, for instance, to be present at the Austrian Reichsrath on the memorable occasion when it was invaded by sixty policemen, and sixteen refractory members were dragged roughly out of the hall. The momentous event in the progress of parliamentary government profoundly impressed him.

Mark Twain, although so characteristically American in every fiber, does not appeal to Americans alone, but even to the English-speaking race. His work has stood the test of translation into French, German, Russian, Italian, Swedish, Norwegian, and Magyar. This is pretty good evidence that it possesses the universal quality that makes the master. Another evidence of fidelity to human nature is the readiness with which it lends itself to dramatization. "The Glided Age," "Tom Sawyer," "The Prince and the Pauper," and "Puddhead Wilson" have all been successful on the stage.

In the thirty-eight years of his literary activity Mark Twain has seen the generation after generation of "American humorists" rise, expand into popularity, and disappear, leaving hardly a memory behind. If he is to be written himself out like them, it is his place in literature has become secure. Fear there is no need, it is because "humor" has been something radically different from theirs. It has been a steadily deeper provoking, and as such has never been to make people laugh. Its more important part has been to make them think and feel in step with the progress of the year.

Twain's own thought has been free, his feelings deeper and more responsive. Sympathy with the oppressed, hatred of injustice and oppression, and a desire for all that is good, make the world his more tolerant place than he has ever lived in. Have you ever seen a man who has been so much as a slave? That is why Mark Twain is a humorist, not only at heart, but in all kinds where people read and think about the common joys and

Signs of all kinds.
Scenic Work, Decorating,
Graining, Paper Hanging, Etc.

EUROPEAN AND ORIENTAL
FANCY GOODS
at the
PARISIAN ART CO.
Fort St., Harrison Bldg.

and expensive for commercial use, and after sinking a fortune in it between 1886 and 1889, Mark Twain had to write off the whole investment as a dead loss.

On top of this the publishing house, which had been supposed to be doing a profitable business, turned out to have been ineapably conducted, and all the money that came into its hands was lost. Mark Twain contributed \$50,000 in efforts to save its life, but to no purpose, and when it finally failed, he found that it had not only absorbed everything he had put in, but had incurred liabilities of \$96,000, of which less than one-third was covered by assets.

He could easily have avoided any legal liability for the debts, but as the credit of the company had been based largely upon his name, he felt bound in honor to pay them. In 1895-96 he took his wife and second daughter on a lecturing tour around the world. He wrote "Following the Equator," and cleared off the obligations of the business in full.

The years 1897, 1898 and 1899 were spent in England, Switzerland, and Austria. Vienna took the family to heart, and Mark Twain achieved a popularity among all classes there which was rarely won by a foreigner anywhere. He saw the manufacture of a good book of history in that time. It was his fortune, for instance, to be present at the Austrian Reichsrath on the morning of a rebellion when it was invaded by sixty policemen, and sixteen refractory members were dragged roughly out of the hall. The momentous event in the progress of parliamentary government profoundly impressed him.

Mark Twain, although so characteristically American in every fiber, does not appeal to Americans alone. He even to the English-speaking race. His work has stood the test of translation into French, German, Russian, Italian, Swedish, Norwegian, and Magyar. This is pretty good evidence that it possesses the universal quality that makes the master. Another evidence of his ability to human nature is the readiness with which it lends itself to dramatization. "The Gilded Age," "Tom Sawyer," "The Prince and the Pauper," and "Puddhead Wilson" have all been successful on the stage. In the thirty-eight years of his literary activity Mark Twain has seen his reputation after generation of "American humorists" rise, expand into international popularity, and disappear, leaving hardly a memory behind. If he is to place himself out like them, it is to place in literature has become a year more needed, it is because "humor" has been something rather different from theirs. It has been a sort of laughter provoking, but as it has never been to make people laugh. It is more important power to make them think and feel in with the progress of the years. Mark Twain's own thought have been finer, his own feelings deeper and more sincere. Sympathy with the oppressed, hatred of injustice and oppression, and a love for all that makes the world a more tolerable place for mankind to live in, have given to his accumulating knowledge a force and a quality that is why Mark Twain has become a classic, not only at home but in all lands whose people read and think about the common joys and sor-

BUY YOUR SUMMER SUIT

NOW and get the benefit of
ADVANCED STYLES
AND
CHOICEST PATTERNS

THEY ARE HERE

M. McNerny, Ltd.

Fort and Merchant

TOM SHARP, The Painter
Elite Building
Phone 397

SHARP SIGNS

Signs of all kinds.
Scenic Work, Decorating,
Graining, Paper Hanging, Etc.

EUROPEAN AND ORIENTAL
FANCY GOODS
at the
PARISIAN ART CO.
Fort St., Harrison Bldg.

and expensive for commercial use, and after sinking a fortune in it between 1886 and 1889, Mark Twain had to write off the whole investment as a dead loss.

On top of this the publishing house, which had been supposed to be doing a profitable business, turned out to have been ineapably conducted, and all the money that came into its hands was lost. Mark Twain contributed \$50,000 in efforts to save its life, but to no purpose, and when it finally failed, he found that it had not only absorbed everything he had put in, but had incurred liabilities of \$96,000, of which less than one-third was covered by assets.

He could easily have avoided any legal liability for the debts, but as the credit of the company had been based largely upon his name, he felt bound in honor to pay them. In 1895-96 he took his wife and second daughter on a lecturing tour around the world. He wrote "Following the Equator," and cleared off the obligations of the business in full.

The years 1897, 1898 and 1899 were spent in England, Switzerland, and Austria. Vienna took the family to heart, and Mark Twain achieved a popularity among all classes there which was rarely won by a foreigner anywhere. He saw the manufacture of a good book of history in that time. It was his fortune, for instance, to be present at the Austrian Reichsrath on the morning of a public occasion when it was invaded by sixty policemen, and sixteen refractory members were dragged roughly out of the hall. The momentous event in the progress of parliamentary government was profoundly impressed him.

Mark Twain, although so characteristically American in every fiber, does not appeal to Americans alone. He even to the English-speaking race. His work has stood the test of translation into French, German, Russian, Italian, Swedish, Norwegian, and Magyar. This is pretty good evidence that it possesses the universal quality that makes the master. Another evidence of his ability to human nature is the readiness with which it lends itself to dramatization. "The Gilded Age," "Tom Sawyer," "The Prince and the Pauper," and "Puddhead Wilson" have all been successful on the stage. In the thirty-eight years of his literary activity Mark Twain has seen his reputation after generation of "American humorists" rise, expand into international popularity, and disappear, leaving hardly a memory behind. If he is to place himself out like them, it is to place in literature has become a year more needed, it is because "humor" has been something rather different from theirs. It has been a sort of laughter provoking, but as it has never been to make people laugh. It is more important power to make them think and feel in with the progress of the years. Mark Twain's own thought have been finer, his own feelings deeper and more sincere. Symmetry with the progress, hurried of injustice and oppression, and rebellion for all that, has made the world a more tolerable place for mankind to live in. have put a new illuminating knowledge of the world in. That is why Mark Twain has become a classic, not only at home but in all lands whose people read and think about the common joys and sor-

MARK TWAIN'S HOME IN HO NOLOUJI YEARS AGO